(b) whether it is a fact that the power supply company threatenec to stop the power supply to the RSP;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to protect the interest of the RSP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has entered into a contract agreement for power supply with Western Electricity Supply Company (WESCO) which is a Joint Venture Company of Bombay Suburban Electric Supply (BSES) with 51% shareholding and Grid Corporation of Orissa (GRIDCO) with 49% shareholding.

(b) to (d) A contract agreement between WESCO and RSP was signed on 12.5.99 and WESCO now wants to revert to an earlier agreement which was signed between GRIDCO and RSP, to which RSP is not agreeable and WESCO has threatened to stop the power supply to RSP. RSP are in touch with WESCO to resolve the issue.

Modernisation of Public Sector Steel Plants

610. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far, on the modernisatioin of different public sector steel plants;

(b) the number of accidents taken place in each steel plant after modernisation (plant-wise);

(c) the reasons which led to these accidents;

(d) the steps taken to prevent such accidents and improve the performance of each public sector steel plant;

(e) the specific schemes prepared to achieve the above goal; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The amount* spent upto October 1999 on modernisation of public sector steel plants are as follows:

Durgapur Steel Plant	:	Rs. 4652 crores
Rourkela Steel Plant	:	Rs. 4375 crores
Bokaro Steel Plant	:	Rs. 2096 crores

(*provisional)

(b) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant

611. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state the stage at which the second phase of modernisation work of the Bokaro Steel Plant stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): The second phase of modernisation work of Bokaro Steel Plant has been deferred.

Loan from SDF

612. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the private sector companies which received loan assistance from Steel Development Fund (SDF) for setting up of Steel projects;

(b) the number of applications pending in that regard till date; and

(c) the steps taken to consider the applications expenditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Loans have been granted from Steel Development Fund to only Steel Authority of India Limited, Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited for modernisation/expansion schemes of these Main Producers.

(b) and (c) Recently some Private Sector Companies have applied for loan from this fund. However, the loans from SDF continue to be recycled to the Main Producers only as per the decision of the Government in 1997.